

**FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE  
KEY WEST BUREAU**



MAIN P.O. BOX 1056  
KEY WEST, FLORIDA 33041-1056

NAVAL AIR STATION  
TRUMAN ANNEX BLDG. 1355  
OFFICE: (305) 296-5444  
(305) 294-4338  
(305) 292-5291  
TELEX: 803046

MFL-6016  
8 July 1986

MEMORANDUM TO: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT: Monthly Report--Key West Bureau--June 1986

**I. GENERAL**

Official guesstimators still say we should be able to move into the new housing by late July, but a more realistic time will probably be mid-August. The units are starting to look more like real houses now that the contractor is nearing the end of his basic construction and getting more into the cosmetic finishing work. We also finally got the go-ahead from Captain Sullivan, the commanding officer of the Naval Air Station, to keep the United Street gate of Truman Annex open 24 hours a day. The gate is right beside our housing area and we hope the presence of a night guard will act as a deterrent to fence-hopping petty thieves. The extra guard shift will begin on 1 October if there are no problems with the upcoming guard contract negotiations.

Despite less than ideal results from our recent cruising survey, the bureau recommended going ahead with a remote-monitoring system between Truman Annex and the Boca Chica Naval Air Station to improve our reception of low-powered medium-wave transmitters in Hispaniola and the eastern Caribbean. We feel the remote antenna provides better reception than our existing "temporary" 750-foot Beverage, which is too short and also interlopes onto an adjoining naval compound and housing project.

Bureau hackers spent lots of time trying to make the BACH system work, but to no avail since all kinds of software manipulations failed to make the Extel print out garble-free copy. All was not lost, however, since we were able to preview what the system will eventually do for our teletypists by successfully hooking the BACH computer up with a parallel-fed Epson printer. We also feel our efforts contributed to eliminating certain interface problems.

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

Cuban President Fidel Castro had a very busy June, making five speeches in addition to granting interviews to French and British journalists and Panamanian television. Out of all this verbiage, Cuban domestic radio and television only carried Castro's closing remarks at a 26 June enterprise assessment meeting. We processed the 6 hours of discussions that were carried over Cuban television and phone patched "El Caballo's" closing remarks to Panama Bureau since the speech was not broadcast over international frequencies.

Cuba's economic woes continue to be uppermost in Castro's mind, as reflected in the discussions held at the enterprise meeting. Many cases of workers goofing off and falling prey to corruption as well as to other malfeasance and misfeasance were made public by labor leaders and party and government officials who participated in the meeting.

Adding to Castro's financial anguish, Mother Nature dumped very heavy rains on the eastern end of the island, destroying crops, forcing the evacuation of thousands of Cubans, and causing the deaths of several people. And if this were not enough, the Cuban freighter "Habana" was sunk on 6 June in an Angolan port following an explosion, which Cuba claimed was caused by a South African mine.

Elsewhere in the Caribbean, Haiti reported continuing disturbances, forcing strong man Namphy to warn that the country was on the brink of civil war and anarchy. Later in the month, after a general strike was announced, Namphy said on radio and TV that elections would be held in November 1987. He promised to hand over the reins of government to the winner on 7 February 1988.

The 10 June CARICOM foreign ministers meeting in Belize set the agenda of important topics to be discussed at the CARICOM heads of government summit, scheduled for the first week of July in Guyana.

In the Dominican Republic, election-related violence continued. On 25 June, five persons were killed in a Central Electoral Board shooting. Both government and the opposition blamed each other for the violence.

Elections were also topical in Jamaica as Prime Minister Seaga announced municipal voting for 29 July, following a meeting with opposition leader Michael Manley. Political observers believe this will be a test for the Seaga

administration. Depending on the outcome, the government may then call for general elections soon. In other developments, heavy rains caused serious damage to the sugar harvest, killing many and leaving hundreds homeless.

In Mexico, the foreign debt issue and unfavorable remarks by U.S. Congressmen about the country's politics appear to be the number-one subject on everybody's mind. Although fully aware of government corruption, drug trafficking, and economic mismanagement, the Mexican media bristled over the foreign criticism and blasted the "meddling" in their domestic affairs as a violation of the country's sovereignty and an unfriendly gesture.

In the midst of calls for a moratorium on the payments of the enormous foreign debt--and timed to coincide with a special meeting of high Mexican officials with creditor banks, the IMF, and the World Bank--President De la Madrid announced on 18 June that Secretary of Finance and Public Credit Jesus Silva Herzog--believed to be one who would rather negotiate the debt payments than declare a moratorium--had resigned and that Gustavo Petriccioli had been designated his successor. Petriccioli is said to favor a moratorium. By month's end, we were still awaiting some hints from our NOTIMEX printer for any breakthroughs in the new secretary's meetings in New York and Washington.

#### B. Technical

With the equipment used for the Boca Chica antenna experiments dismantled and stored, the only thing left in place to maintain our squatters rights are 18 support poles, the Beverage wire itself, and the near- and far-end ground rods. Considering that we will not find within reasonable distance from the bureau a more suitable site for a full-fledged Beverage covering one of our most sensitive target areas, we feel that every effort should be made to retain our right with the Navy to use this site for further experiments and possible installation of a remote operation. The current agreement on experimental use of the site expires 13 September 1986. By that time we must either abandon the facility or ask Southern Division of the Naval Facilities Engineering Command in Charleston for permission to make the antenna installation permanent.

The material and spare parts needed for complete rehabilitation of the eight-element Hermes Loop Array have been ordered through Dynalectron Corporation and are expected to arrive toward the end of July. Six loop elements are operational, and their output is available to the cruiser and monitors via the bureau's antenna switching system.

The antenna contractor completed reguying the bureau's second 80-foot metal tower in time for the beginning of the hurricane season.

### C. Cruising

According to recent Havana Domestic Service announcements, Cuba continues to improve its radio broadcasting network, bringing several new FM stations on the air with a couple more waiting on the sides that will also probably begin broadcasting soon. Only the four longstanding Havana-area FM transmitters have been confirmed by the bureau's VHF TV antenna, however. Meanwhile, we're putting the heat on our distributor who is still waiting for a proper amplifier for the FM antenna we ordered some time ago.

A new 10,000 watt station from the West Palm Beach/Miami area came on the air this month on popular frequency 1040 kHz. This is the third transmitter from south Florida to appear on medium-wave this year. The bureau checks this frequency often since one of Cuba's two 500-kilowatt stations can also operate on 1040, the same frequency the Cubans used back in August 1982 to blow the farmers off the map in Iowa and surrounding states.

Georgetown (Guyana) Domestic Service in English was monitored two or three times in June for the first time in several months. Georgetown is apparently testing its new 10-kilowatt transmitter which reportedly was scheduled to go on the air last December.

Bureau reception of Belize Domestic Service in English improved considerably at mid-month when the station's sole shortwave transmitter resumed its relay.

## III. ADMINISTRATION

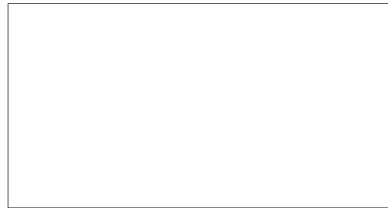
### Personnel

The rite of passage of changing bureau chief families began on 19 June when David, Lilian, Geraldine, and "Bobbie," the formidable Old English Sheepdog, rolled into steamy Key West. During the hectic last week and a half of June, Dennis introduced his wide-eyed and more than slightly bewildered successor to both official (Navy) and unofficial (Duval St) Key West. Highlights included courtesy calls on Capt Ray Sullivan, commanding officer of the Naval Air Station, and Rear Admiral Ted Steele, COMUSFORCARIB, who likened the area to a box of granola--plenty of nuts and flakes and more than a good dollop of fruits tossed in for flavor. We were also introduced to and given command briefings by Col Ford Daab, COMUSFORCARIB J-2, and

LtCdr Kirk Davidson, the head of J-2's new Joint Intelligence Center, which has spacious digs the envy of any organization. Briefings were also given by LtCdr Lauren Nelson, the head of the Naval Special Group unit next door to the bureau where we share some antenna space. In addition, the head of the NAVCOMUNIT, LtCdr Ed Barger, showed us his facility which relays all our incoming and outgoing unclas traffic. Cdr Phil McNight, who runs the classified facility that sends and receives all our cables, also took time out to show us his operation. Most of these chaps loosened up a bit during TGIF at the Trumbo Point Officers Club, where they insisted upon welcoming the newcomers with a powerful introduction to Margaritaville. Later, the high prices of Key West rocked the cash register as six of us split the bill for a "modest" \$190 dinner. Perhaps the choice of wine (label attached) was partly responsible for running up the tab.

Despite all the enthusiastic welcomes, Lilian and Geraldine split for Tel Aviv to visit mama on 30 June, saying they would be back when the house was ready to move into. With Dennis' departure on 2 July, Bobbie was rescued from the local kennel's slammer and immediately put on contract as bureau watch dog.

Finally, after one last stop at the Green Parrot and the Pirates Cove, Dennis was last seen trailing smoke from his 1971 VW Squareback heading up the Keys to pick up Linda and sons for the trip north.

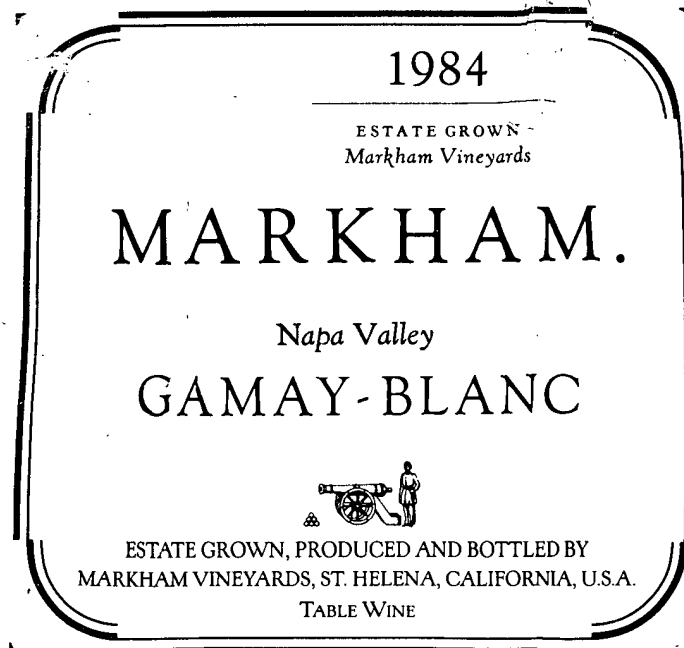


Chief, Key West Bureau

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Attachment:  
Production Report

cc: C/Panama, C/Paraguay Bureaus



At least it  
wasn't "Rodney  
STRONG."

## KEY WEST BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR JUNE 1986

## I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 133,860

TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH : 18,550

TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH : 528

	BROADCAST	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLICATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:	2,575	14,700	21
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER WEEK	MIN	MIN	ISSUES

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:  
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)

## BAHAMAS

Nassau Domestic Service in English	<u>730</u>		
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Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English			<u>280</u>
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## BARBADOS

Bridgetown CANA in English		<u>54,980</u>	
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Bridgetown ADVOCATE in English			<u>-0-</u>
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Bridgetown SUNDAY ADVOCATE in English			<u>-0-</u>
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## BELIZE

Belize City Domestic Service in English	<u>260</u>		
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Belize Times in English			<u>470</u>
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## CUBA

Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish	<u>5,310</u>		
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Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish	<u>9,830</u>		
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Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish	<u>2,280</u>		
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Havana Radio Periodico Del Aire in Spanish	<u>4,720</u>		
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## KEY WEST BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR JUNE 1986

## CUBA

Havana Domestic Service in Spanish	<u>-0-</u>
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Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish	<u>6,320</u>
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Havana Television Cubana Network in Spanish	<u>-0-</u>
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Havana Television Service in Spanish	<u>25,260</u>
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## DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Santo Domingo Cadena Brea Pena in Spanish	<u>310</u>
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Santo Domingo Radio Antillas Network in Spanish	<u>430</u>
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Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish	<u>400</u>
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## JAMAICA

Kingston Domestic Service in English	<u>310</u>
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Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English	<u>690</u>
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Kingston SUNDAY GLEANER in English	<u>-0-</u>
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## MEXICO

Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish	<u>18,710</u>
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## NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Bonaire Trans World Radio in English	<u>1,870</u>
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## THE NETHERLANDS

Hilversum International in English	<u>250</u>
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## SURINAME

Paramaribo Internation Service in English	<u>450</u>
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OTHER SOURCES: None